

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A container neck comprising:  
a finish terminating in an opening;  
an upper sidewall connected to said finish at an end opposite said opening;  
a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and  
a flange having undulations in a top surface, said flange extending radially from the neck between said upper and said lower sidewalls.
2. The container neck of claim 1, wherein said undulations comprise peaks and valleys.
3. The container neck of claim 2, wherein said undulations are arcuate.
4. The container neck of claim 3, wherein said undulations form an approximately sinusoidal wave at the point of connection with said upper sidewall.
5. The container neck of claim 2, wherein said undulations have linear sides and a substantially triangular shape.
6. The container neck of claim 1, further comprising threads disposed on an outer surface of said finish.
7. The container neck of claim 1, wherein said flange comprises a ledge extending beyond the outer periphery of said undulations.
8. The container neck of claim 1, the container adopted for hot-fill processing.
9. The container neck of claim 2, comprising eight peaks.
10. A container comprising  
a neck portion comprising  
a finish terminating in an opening;

an upper sidewall connected to said finish at an end opposite said opening;  
a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and  
a flange having undulations in a top surface, said flange extending radially from the neck between said upper and said lower sidewall;  
a transition region extending from the neck portion to a tubular container sidewall portion; and  
a base portion below said container sidewall portion.

11. The container of claim 10, wherein , wherein said undulations are arcuate.
12. The container of claim 11, wherein said undulations form an approximately sinusoidal wave at the point of connection with said upper sidewall.
13. The container of claim 10, wherein said undulations are linear forming a triangular shape.
14. The container of claim 10, further comprising threads disposed on an outer surface of said finish.
15. The container of claim 10, wherein said undulations comprise peaks and valleys.
16. The container of claim 10, the container adapted for hot fill processing.
17. The container of claim 10, wherein said flange comprises a ledge extending beyond the outer periphery of said undulations.
18. The container of claim 15, comprising eight peaks.
19. The container of claim 10, said container sidewall comprising four substantially planar panels wherein opposite planar panels are substantially parallel.
20. The container of claim 19, wherein the container sidewall comprises an inset between two adjacent planar panels.

21. The container of claim 19, wherein said container sidewall comprises an arcuate panel connecting two adjacent planar panels.

22. The container of claim 21, further comprising an inset in the arcuate panel between two adjacent panels.

23. The container of claim 22, comprising two insets in arcuate panels that are diagonally disposed from one another.

24. The container of claim 10, said container sidewall comprising an upper bumper and a lower bumper and an inset region between said upper bumper and said lower bumper.

25. A container comprising:

a neck portion comprising

a finish terminating in an opening;

an upper sidewall connected to said finish;

a lower sidewall below said upper sidewall; and

a flange having undulations in a top surface, said flange extending radially from the neck between said upper and said lower sidewall;

a transition region extending from the neck portion to a tubular container sidewall portion,

said container sidewall comprising

four substantially planar panels wherein opposite planar panels are substantially parallel; and

an inset between two adjacent planar panels; and

a base portion below said container sidewall portion.

26. The container of claim 25, wherein said container sidewall comprises an arcuate panel connecting two adjacent planar panels.

27. The container of claim 25, wherein said inset is in the arcuate panel between two adjacent panels.

28. The container of claim 25, comprising two insets in arcuate panels that are diagonally disposed from one another.